What is Claimed is:

A cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, the funnel comprising:

a main body portion having a seal edge and a neck, the main body portion having at least one region with a higher tensile stress than other regions of the main body portion;

a first protective coating on an exterior surface of the main body portion, the first protective coating covering at least a portion of the at least one region, the first protective coating being of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage; and

a second protective coating on the exterior surface of the main body portion that covers at least a portion of the first protective coating, the second protective coating being of a composition and thickness to protect the funnel from moisture contact.

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- 2. The cathode ray tube of claim 1, wherein the first protective coating is a silicate layer.
- 3. The cathode ray tube of claim 2, wherein the silicate layer contains aluminum oxide, silicon carbide, titanium carbide, or boron carbide.

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- The cathode ray tube of claim 1, wherein the funnel has a deflection angle of about 125-135 degrees.
- 5. The cathode ray tube of claim 1, wherein the at least one region has a tensile stress of at least 1350 pounds per square inch.

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- 6. The cathode ray tube of claim 1, wherein the second protective coating substantially covers the main body portion and extends from proximate the neck to the seal edge.
- 7. The cathode ray tube of claim 1, wherein the second protective coating is a silicone layer containing graphite or a poly-tetrafluoroethylene layer containing graphite.
 - 8. A cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, the funnel comprising:

a main body portion having a seal edge and a neck, the main body portion having a deflection angle of at least 125 degrees and at least one region with a tensile stress of at least 1350 pounds per square inch;

a first protective coating on an exterior surface of the main body portion, the first protective coating covering at least a portion of the at least one region, the first protective coating being of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage; and

a second protective coating on the exterior surface of the main body portion that covers at least a portion of the first protective coating, the second protective coating being of a composition and thickness to protect the funnel from moisture contact.

9. The cathode ray tube of claim 8, wherein the first protective coating is a silicate layer containing aluminum oxide, silicon carbide, titanium carbide, or boron carbide.

10. A method for making a cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, comprising the steps of:

providing the funnel with a main body portion having at least one region with a higher tensile stress than other regions of the main body portion;

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coating an external surface of the main body portion with a first protective coating such that the first protective coating covers at least a portion of the at least one region, the first protective coating being of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage;

attaching a seal edge of the main body portion to the panel;

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mounting an electron gun in the neck;

evacuating and sealing the envelope; and

coating at least a portion of the first protective coating with a second protective coating, the second protective coating being of a composition and thickness to protect the funnel from moisture contact.

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- 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the first protective coating is a silicate layer containing inorganic fillers.
- 12. The method of claim 10, further comprising forming the funnel to have a deflection angle of about 125-135 degrees.
 - 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the at least one region has a tensile stress of at least 1350 pounds per square inch.

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- 14. The method of claim 10, wherein the second protective coating is a polytetrafluoroethylene layer or silicone layer containing graphite.
- 15. A cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, the funnel comprising:

a main body portion having a seal edge and a neck, the main body portion having at least one region with a higher tensile stress than other regions of the main body portion;

a first protective coating on an exterior surface of the main body portion, the first protective coating covering at least a portion of the at least one region; and

a second protective coating on the exterior surface of the main body portion that covers at least a portion of the first protective coating.

- The cathode ray tube of claim 15, wherein the first protective coating is of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage.
 - 17. The cathode ray tube of claim 15, wherein the second protective coating is of a composition and thickness to protect the funnel from moisture contact.
 - 18. The cathode ray tube of claim 15, wherein the first protective coating is a silicate layer with an inorganic filler.

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- The cathode ray tube of claim 18, wherein the silicate layer is selected from the group consisting of a potassium silicate layer, a lithium silicate layer, and a sodium silicate layer.
- The cathode ray tube of claim 18, wherein the inorganic filler is selected from the group consisting of an aluminum oxide, a silicon carbide, a boron carbide, and a titanium carbide.
- The cathode ray tube of claim 15, wherein the funnel has a deflection angle of at least 10 125 degrees
 - 22. A cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, the funnel comprising:

a main body portion having a seal edge and a neck, the main body portion having at least one region with a higher tensile stress than other regions of the main body portion;

a protective coating on an exterior surface of the main body portion, the protective coating covering at least a portion of the at least one region, the protective coating being of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage.

23. The cathode ray tube of claim 22, wherein the protective coating is a silicate layer.

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- The cathode ray tube of claim 23, wherein the silicate layer is selected from the group consisting of a potassium silicate layer, a lithium silicate layer, and a sodium silicate layer.
- The cathode ray tube of claim 23, wherein the silicate layer contains an inorganic filler.
- The cathode ray tube of claim 25, wherein the inorganic filler is selected from the group consisting of an aluminum oxide, a silicon carbide, a boron carbide, and a titanium carbide.
 - The cathode ray tube of claim 22, wherein the main body portion has a deflection angle of at least 125 degrees.
- The cathode ray tube of claim 22, wherein the at least one region has a tensile stress of at least 1350 pounds per square inch and the protective coating covers a majority of the at least one region.
- 29. A cathode ray tube having an envelope including a panel and a neck connected by a funnel, the neck containing therein an in-line electron gun oriented for transpose scanning of electron beams emitted from the in-line electron gun, the funnel comprising:

a main body portion having a seal edge and a neck, the main body portion having at least one region with a higher tensile stress than other regions of the main body portion;

a first protective coating on an exterior surface of the main body portion, the first protective coating covering at least a portion of the at least one region, the first protective coating being of a composition and thickness to substantially reduce susceptibility of the at least one region to mechanical damage; and

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a second protective coating on the exterior surface of the main body portion that covers at least a portion of the first protective coating, the second protective coating being of a composition and thickness to protect the funnel from moisture contact.